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COMIREX-M-55  
21 November 1968

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

## COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION

COMIREX-M-55  
21 November 1968

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

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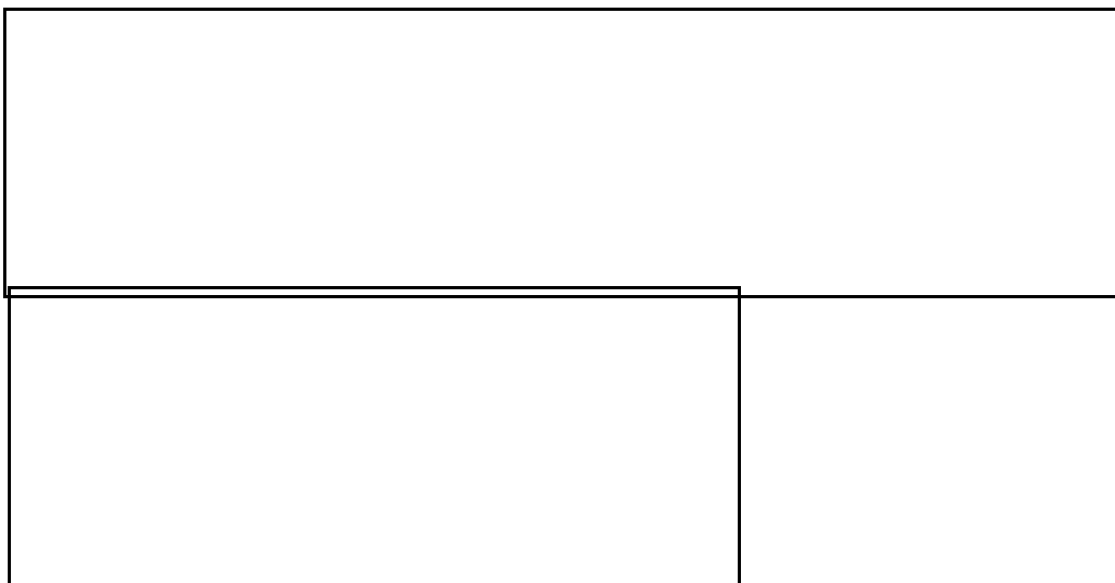
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CORONA

1105 - Launched 3 November 1968, 2131Z

	<u>Planned</u>	<u>Rev 5</u>
Inclination	82.0	82.5
Apogee	150.9 n.m.	160.0 n.m.
Perigee	85.0 n.m.	82.8 n.m.
Period	88.80 min	88.8 min
Eccentricity	.008981	.01098
Latitude	35. N	36.37 N

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Actual 1st bucket recovery (8 days) - 11 November, 2359Z  
Estimated 2nd bucket recovery (10 days) - 21 November, 2216Z

Film processing/distribution:

Actual arrival 1st bucket at Eastman Kodak - 12 Nov, 2015Z  
Actual arrival 1st bucket Priority 1 in D.C. - 15 Nov, 2200Z  
Actual arrival 1st bucket Priority 2 in D.C. - 17 Nov, 1630Z  
Estimated arrival 2nd bucket at Eastman Kodak - 22 Nov, 1800Z  
Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 1 in D.C. - 25 Nov, 1600Z  
Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 2 in D.C. - 26 Nov, 1600Z

Projected stereo coverage:

1st bucket - Land area - 2.75 million sq. n.m.  
Targets - Approximately 2,400  
2nd bucket - Land area - 2.75 million sq. n.m.  
Targets - Approximately 2,400

1049 - Scheduled 11 December 1968

Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 19 December 1968, 2230Z  
Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 27 December 1968, 2230Z

Film processing/distribution:

Estimated arrival 1st bucket at Eastman Kodak - 20 Dec, 1800Z  
Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 1 in D.C. - 23 Dec, 1600Z  
Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 2 in D.C. - 24 Dec, 1600Z

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Estimated arrival 2nd bucket at Eastman Kodak - 28 Dec, 1800Z

Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 1 in D.C. - 31 Dec, 1600Z

Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 2 in D.C. - 1 Jan, 1600Z

Projected stereo coverage:

1st bucket - Land area - 2.75 million sq. n.m.  
Targets - Approximately 2,400

2nd bucket - Land area - 2.75 million sq. n.m.  
Targets - Approximately 2,400

1106 - Scheduled 5 February 1969

Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 14 February 1969  
Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 23 February 1969

1050 - Scheduled 19 March 1969

Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 27 March, 1969  
Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 4 April 1969

1051 - Scheduled 7 May 1969

Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 15 May 1969  
Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 23 May 1969

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Report on Aircraft Activities--Far EastNRO  
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3. [ ] confirmed that FOOD FAIR activities continue under the 303 standdown and then provided the following details on GIANT SCALE activities 3-21 November:

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>MISSION NO.</u>	<u>AREAS/TARGETS</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
[ ]	[ ]	KienAn, Kep, Dien Bien Phu Rts 1A, 10, Wtr Seg 33,58	Results Fair
		Dien Bien Phu, Yen Bai, Tien Yen Rtes 10, 4, 1A	Results Fair
		Nam Dinh, Na San, Vinh	Results unk

4. In the period 1-21 November, there were 23 successful BUMPY ACTION missions and four losses. The only two high-level missions attempted were lost. Details follow:

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<u>MISSION NO.</u>	<u>AREAS/TARGETS</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
[ ]	Cat Bi Afld, Haiphong, Kep	Lost
	Haiphong Area	Lost
	Nam Dinh, Seg RR4, Phuly, BaiThuong	Successful, MARS
	Nam Dinh, Seg RR4, Seg 1A Thanh Hoa, Beach Strip 1933N 10549E to 1919N 10599E	Successful, MARS
	Sam Son, Bai Thuong	Successful, MARS
	Hon Gai, CamPha, Port Wallut	Successful, MARS
	Hanoi Port, Haiphong Port	Successful, MARS
	Haiphong Naval Base, Kien An, Nam Dinh	Successful, MARS

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BUMPY ACTION ACTIVITIES cont.

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Date	Mission No.	Areas/Targets	Remarks
		Cat Bi A/F, SAMs 311, 70, 255, Haiphong Port, Haiphong Naval Base, Phuc Yen AflD	Lost
		Area South Tchepone Ford 171212N 1060907E, Cable Crossing 171218N 10609476, Revetted Trk Pk 173029N 1054323E	Successful, MARS
		Rte 1A	Successful, MARS
		SamSon Coastal Def Site, Thanh Hoa, Sez Rte 1A	Successful, MARS
		Haiphong, Hanoi	Lost
		Sam Sites 71, 93; Haiphong Port, Cat Bi A/F	Successful, MARS
		Nam Dinh, RR&Rt1A, Thanh Hoa	Successful, MARS
		Phuc Yen A/F, Hanoi BacMai, Rte 1A south of Hanoi	Successful, MARS
		Gia Lam A/F, BacMai A/F, Nam Dinh	Successful, MARS
		Thanh Hoa, Bai Thuong	Successful, MARS
		Rte 1A, Nam Dinh, Thanh Hoa	Successful, MARS
		Ninh Binh, Segs Rte 1A, Phuly Segs Haiphong to Hanoi Hwy & Railline, Kien An A/F	Successful, MARS

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BUMPY ACTION ACTIVITIES cont.

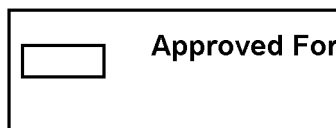
	Areas/Targets	Remarks
	Khai Xong Tak Pk, Segs: Vinh Wtwy, Song Hoa River, Rts 74 & 15, Thanh Hoa Wtwy 19; Bai Thuong A/F	Successful, MARS
	Cat Bi A/F, Haiphong NavalFac	Successful, MARS
	Rte 1A	Successful, MARS
	CacBa Isl., Hon Gai, CamPha, Port Wallut	Successful, MARS
	Gia Lam, Bac Mai, Nam Dinh	Successful, MARS
	SAMs 66, 71, 93; Haiphong Port, Cat Bi Afld	Successful, MARS
	Haiphong, Kien An, Nam Dinh Ninh Binh, Seg Han 1A, Thanh Hoa	Successful, MARS
Successful		23
Lost		4

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5. confirmed that IDEALIST/TACKLE overflights continue under the standdown. then reported on action against priority requirements in South China/ North Vietnam as follows:

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a. a. Coverage of Lines of Communications (LOC) pertinent to the introduction of Chinese forces into North Vietnam (see COMOR-D-25/207, 4 March 1966). The number of LOC priority targets in South China and North Vietnam remains at 142. For the period 7-13 November, no surveillance coverage was reported.


b. Coverage of North Vietnam to detect the possible introduction or deployment of offensive missile systems (see COMOR-D-25/200, 23 May 1967 and COMIREX-D-25.3/2, 20 November 1967) is shown on the grid map at Tab B for the period 7-13 November. No SSM activity was observed.

Report on Aircraft Activities--Cuba



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6.  reported GLASS LAMP activities 30 October - 21 November as follows:

RESULTS

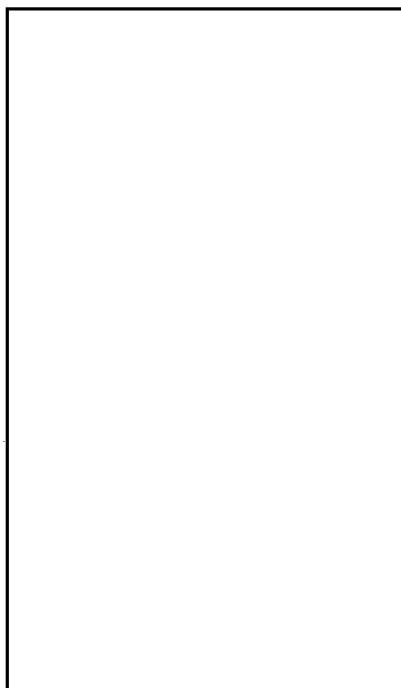
Successful, 20.5% coverage

Successful, 16.4% coverage

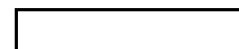
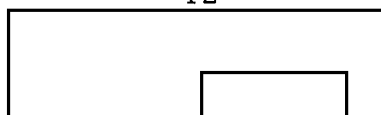
Successful, 42.5% coverage

RECAP

<u>NET</u>	<u>CUMULATIVE</u>
14.6%	86.6%
20.5%	90.1%
16.4%	93.6%
42.5%	96.5%



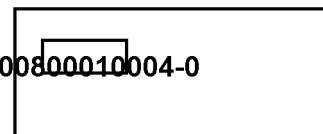
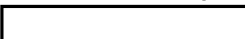
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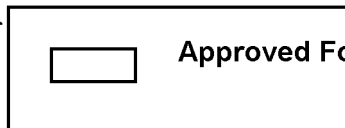
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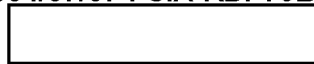
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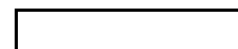
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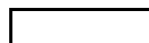
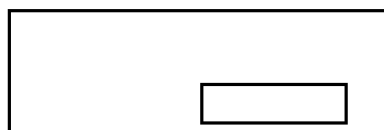
7. [redacted] reported that for the 56-day period beginning [redacted], eight GLASS LAMP missions were flown over Cuba and provided 94 percent coverage of the area. During this period 146 of the 164 targets in Cuba were covered completely on cloud-free photography.

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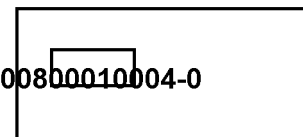
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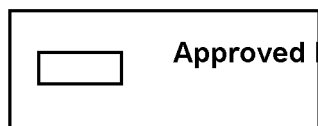
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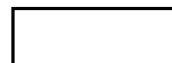
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Section II (NPIC Report)

Mission Highlights



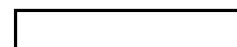
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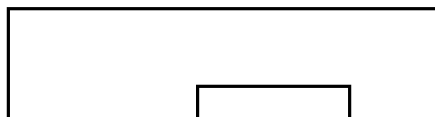
1. [redacted] reviewed briefly the information contained in the preliminary OAK cable based on a scan of [redacted] He highlighted:

- a. The fact that all of the launch facilities are observed at Tyuratam.
- b. The launch vehicle is no longer erected on Launch Pad J-1 at Tyuratam.
- c. Another casting building has been destroyed at Kamensk-Shakhtinskiy reflecting continuing difficulty in rocket motor technology.
- d. Six passes over the Middle East reveal no significant activity.
- e. Eastern Europe countries were not covered.
- f. 19 passes with more than 75 percent cloud-free photography resulted in coverage of a large portion of China.
- g. There was complete coverage of Shuang Cheng Tzu and the five nearby suspect SAWRFs.
- h. Construction continues at Launch Complex B, Shuang Cheng Tzu.
- i. Excavation for another SAWRF is identified near Cheng Chou.



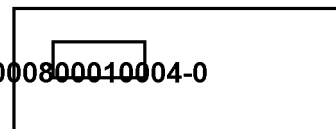
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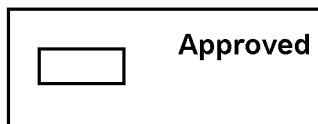
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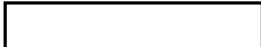
2.  showed only four boards:

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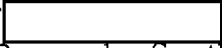


b. GIANT SCALE photography   
revealed a new airfield in the early stage of construction  
16 n.m. southwest of Hanoi. This is another indicator  
of a considerable effort on the part of the North Vietnamese  
to strengthen their air defenses and still allow for a broadened  
offensive capability.

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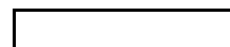
c. BUMPY ACTION photography   
provided the first photographic evidence of apparent rail  
movement of North Vietnamese troops. There have been a  
variety of reports that the North Vietnamese were departing  
from previous practices and were beginning to use rail  
lines for troop movement.

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d. A BUMPY ACTION mission of   
shows SAM equipment at the Dan Hoy Army Barracks South  
where high frequency radio communications antennas are  
being installed. Lack of other SA-2 equipment associated with  
missile assembly or support leads to a suspicion that the Fan  
Song B radars are possibly undergoing modification in this area.

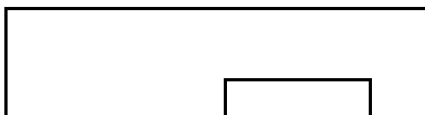
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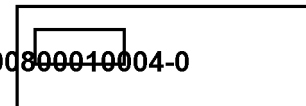
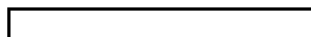
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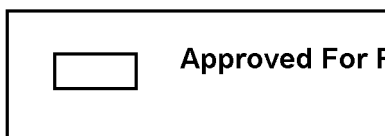
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Section III (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

Report from Imagery Collection Requirements Subcommittee

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1. [ ] commented briefly on the ICRS report on Far East coverage dated 31 October (see Tab A), noting that it did not include the results of [ ]

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2. Priority targets and areas were approved by ICRS and submitted to the NRO for programming Mission 1049.

Report from Imagery Exploitation Subcommittee

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3. [ ] distributed a volume entitled "Third-Phase Basic Requirements for FY 1969" to COMIREX principals. He explained that this was a complete listing of targets which had been approved for third-phase exploitation in FY 1969 and that EXSUBCOM quarterly status reports will be made relative to this summary.

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Report from Data Base Working Group

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4. [ ] reported that his working group had met with IHC on the chip problem and the details would be covered in some detail in the DBWG Minutes of 20 November (NIDBWG-M-48). [ ] also reported that the DBWG task team on Imagery Indexing Consolidation had detected what appeared to be undesirable duplication connected with the Area Coverage File. The Chairman, DBWG, advised that he would forward memoranda on these problems to COMIREX (see COMIREX-D-32.6/1).

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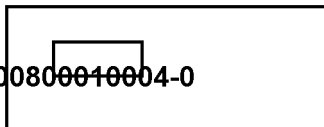
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Section IV (Action Items)

Revision of CORONA Launch Schedule--UTB Problem in KH-4B System

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1. The Chairman distributed to members an informal draft of a memorandum to USIB, "Employment of Ultra Thin Base Film in the KH-4 System", requesting that it be reviewed initially from the standpoint of the accuracy of the statements in paragraph 1 b. [ ] observed that paragraph 1 b. of [ ] memorandum tied in with the three-paragraph working paper (prepared at the request of COMIREX) distributed to members by NPIC. [ ] emphasized that this NPIC paper analyzed the impact of the UTB shortcomings on the first bucket of 1105 strictly from the search standpoint. Based only on the search requirement (ignoring specific target readout requirements) the product of 1105-1 was good; sufficiently good so that if NPIC had its choice it would suggest another poor UTB would provide more information on the search problem than a KH-4B with standard film, provided it was no worse than 1105.

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2. At the request of [ ] expanded slightly on the information contained in the NPIC working paper, explaining that the motion in the film had indeed caused smear as well as having a generally harmful effect on focus. [ ] confirmed that the best of the mission is comparable to the best of Mission 1102 while explaining that NPIC had expected the product to be as good as the best of 1104. At this juncture [ ] provided some background on the genesis of the use of UTB, explaining that originally this was regarded as a design goal rather than design requirement, and stated frankly that his office considered it unwise to experiment again with UTB until it has determined why the results of extensive ground testing did not agree with the flight results. [ ] emphasized that so long as the reason for the degraded imagery is unknown it

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is impossible to speculate what problems might be encountered should there be a decision to use the UTB in either 1106 or 1107.

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[ ] then added that the CR-8 system scheduled for 1108 has an improved film path configurative<sup>on</sup> and every effort is being made to achieve satisfactory UTB performance.

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3. Further discussion elicited support from [ ] on the decision not to experiment with UTB until 1108; and a general consensus that the new schedule, set forth in part in Section I, paragraph 2, represents the best possible adjustment to a standdown on UTB, with a very small loss in search coverage. En route to COMIREX acceptance of the revised schedule, [ ] agreed tentatively to paragraph 2 of the Chairman's memorandum, to the effect that further serious reduction in search during the first half of Calendar 1969 is a remote possibility. The DIA member, referring to the same paragraph, endorsed the schedule revision as proposed by NRO, particularly in view of the unknown nature of the problem and the possibility that further degradation might be encountered if UTB were employed again. He noted that should some contingency arrive, COMIREX might need to re-examine this problem. It was also the consensus of COMIREX that the revised schedule probably represented such a small change to the search capability that it is not necessary at this time to address to USIB a memorandum on the subject.

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Review of Exploitation and Programming Problems in Near Term Satellite Launch Schedule

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4. [ ] displayed to COMIREX wall charts showing both [ ] and CORONA scheduling with emphasis on receipt of material at NPIC, first- and second-phase readout, and the relationship of readout to the programming of subsequent launches. The Chairman, EXSUBCOM, showed

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25X1A how the handling of 1105 [ ] would inevitably cause a  
25X1A backup at NPIC and how in turn this would affect the feedback  
25X1A for [ ] 1049. [ ] agreed with [ ] 25X1A  
25X1A that the workload occasioned by overlap in receipt of 1105  
25X1A [ ] would require trade-offs and some practical judgments  
25X1A on shuffling priorities. [ ] noted in this connection  
25X1A that he had already talked to [ ] about the feedback 25X1A  
25X1A problem and it had been agreed that NPIC would confine its first  
25X1A report [ ] to the question of cloud cover for those targets  
The Chairman, ICRS, considered this might permit a timely guess  
as to what recoverage will be needed.

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Tasking and Readout of IDEALIST/TACKLE Peripheral Missions

6. The Chairman noted the report on aircraft activity in the Far East, Section I, paragraph 3, with particular reference to Mission C198C which had attempted to obtain peripheral photography of the Luta area, the Shantung Peninsula, and the Shanghai area. It appeared that first-phase reporting of such peripheral missions is accomplished in the field but NPIC does receive the film and does publish a second-phase report. The Chairman emphasized that it is positively the responsibility of COMIREX to study the results and provide appropriate requirements. The DIA member agreed and requested that at the next meeting NPIC be prepared to provide COMIREX with a summary of what has been read out of peripheral missions flown up to the date of the next meeting.

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Suspension of GLASS LAMP Missions from 21 December  
Through 3 January 1969

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7. The Chairman, ICRS, reported that SAC has suggested that GLASS LAMP activity be suspended between 21 December 1968 and 3 January 1969. [ ] reported that coverage for the 56-day period now stands at 97 percent and the 43 percent unique coverage obtained by a mission this week will sustain the area coverage at an acceptably high level past the 3 January date. The Chairman, ICRS, also advised COMIREX that sufficient aircraft and personnel would be on standby to provide a 48-hour launch capability in case of an emergency. Following a canvass of members, the Chairman requested the DIA member to advise SAC that COMIREX had accepted the proposal for a suspension of activity during the period. Simultaneously, [ ] requested that the Chairman, ICRS, make a final review of coverage and the Cuban requirement the week of 16 December to insure that there was no emergency on the horizon.

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Section V (Status of Recent COMIREX Papers)

Recommended Procedures for the Derivation, Validation,  
and/or Refinement of Coordinates for COMIREX Targets  
(COMIREX-D-30.2/3)

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1. The recommended procedures for the handling of coordinates for COMIREX targets were approved.

Standard Imagery Target Definition Format and Preparation  
Guidelines (COMIREX-D-31.3/10)

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2. The Acting CIA member advised that his agency found no problem with the proposed SITD format but still encountered some problem as to who would use it and for what purpose. The ensuing discussion established the fact that there is no intention to embark on a mass production project but rather to provide uniform means to identify targets on which a problem of identification existed, to follow some logical steps which would permit acceptable identification, and to make this identification a matter of record. [ ] noted that he had asked [ ] to prepare a list of targets with definition problems, which was not expected to be voluminous, and this would be an initial input to the SITD. There was some discussion of the importance of the SITD as an instrumentality required in support of the exploitation problem. [ ] observed that it appears to NRO to be a good exploitation tool with no obvious application to collection. [ ] felt that some people might be thinking in terms of locating targets on maps while in reality all that is planned is to provide a means of identifying and locating targets with sufficient accuracy to permit coherent intelligence exploitation. [ ] explained that the normal procedure would be to use the SITD format on targets which were in the course of being reported on, not on all targets. [ ] suggested that the additional steps required to complete the SITD,

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in instances where preparation of a report was in progress, would not represent an excessive cost. With regard to the question as to whether this is an intelligence or an exploitation tool, [ ] hoped that the orderly identification of targets and the maintenance of the SITD information should provide a useful bridge of understanding to ICRS and other customers.

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3. COMIREX approved the format and guidelines for preparation of the SITD on the basis of it being a practical experiment and that COMIREX would have ample opportunities to study usefulness and cost aspects before it could get out of hand on a volume standpoint. In arriving at the agreement, [ ] said that while NPIC agreed with the concept it must be very cautious on the question of support due to possible excessive costs. He said further that COMIREX should have a thorough understanding of the need for the information and the use for which it is to be put on a target-by-target basis. The Chairman repeated that the first effort would be based on the list of targets to be provided by [ ] and he did not expect this to be unmanageable in size.

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Target Nomination Procedure (COMIREX-D-32.2/5) [ ]

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4. The Chairman referred to a draft of COMIREX-D-32.2/5, distributed at the table, with apologies for the length of time it had taken to get a piece of paper before COMIREX following initial discussion of the nomination form in August (COMIREX-D-32.2/4). [ ] noted that, while the present memorandum sets forth the procedure which will be followed in use of the nomination form, Tab B to the original paper, the criteria, has been withdrawn for further considerations and separate handling. The Chairman requested that all members and consultants now avail themselves of the opportunity to study the present memorandum with the hope that their concurrence may be procured at the next meeting and that COMIREX-D-32.2/5, dated 21 November 1968, may then be formally accepted.

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Instructions for Use of Existing Reports to Satisfy Basic Support  
Exploitation Requirements (COMIREX-D-31.3/12)

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5. The Chairman made available to members a draft memorandum proposing use of the Basic Imagery Interpretation Brief (BIIB) as a means of providing supplemental reporting on basic requirements. [ ] observed that the procedure looks sensible to him and that he planned to sign and distribute it, but wanted COMIREX members to see it first. /This document distributed 26 November 1968./

World-wide Positioning Requirements (COMIREX-D-15.2/12)

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6. The Chairman reported that, after Board membership had accepted the COMIREX paper on geodetic positioning, problems had been encountered in the Office of the Director. [ ] went on to explain that following consultation with Admiral Taylor the problems had been solved but had made new wording necessary. The new wording will be sent by the Executive Secretary, USIB, to holders of COMIREX-D-15.2/12.

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Section VI (Other Business)

Consideration of Need to Revise COMIREX Monthly Report to USIB

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1. The Chairman observed that for the second time in the four years of its existence a suggestion had been received that the COMIREX monthly report to the Board might need revision. [ ] noted that there are many facets to this question ranging from the need to send the report to the Board for noting to the possibility that the report should be shortened, reoriented, or rearranged in some major regards. He asked that members consider suggestions for revisions, additions, or deletions.

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Proposed Trip to the West Coast

[ ]

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2. The Chairman reported that after considering a variety of factors pertinent to the proposed trip to the West Coast it is now generally agreed that the trip should be postponed until some time in January and that there should be two groups rather than one. Groups larger than fifteen are not too manageable but a group of fifteen really constitutes minimum representation from the COMIREX membership and does not come near taking care of those who have not visited the West Coast facilities and should make the trip. [ ] requested that [ ] explore the possibility of running two groups of approximately fifteen in successive weeks and also adding Beale and Edwards to the schedule. The Chairman requested that, while [ ] was examining the possibility of laying these on about mid-January, COMIREX members call in nominations for the trips to [ ]

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Christmas Party

[ ]

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3. The Chairman confirmed that the Christmas party would be held at Ft. Myer, the same room as last year, on Tuesday, 10 December. It was generally agreed that the charge to

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be levied would include only collations while drinks would be paid for on a drink-by-drink basis. [ ] requested members as well as the chairmen of subcommittees and working groups to canvass their areas and report to [ ] the names of those who would attend and an estimate of the secretaries which each office would bring. /For later and more complete information, see [ ] memorandum of 25 November.7

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Schedule of Future Courses at Offutt

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4. The Executive Secretary advised that, following conclusion of the Offutt AFB course of 18 November, four courses have been scheduled tentatively for 1969. The proposed dates are 3-7 March, 9-13 June, 25-29 August, and 3-7 November.

Community Use of Satellite Photography of Chile

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5. In response to a question from the DIA member, the Chairman explained that, while NPIC has been performing a special service in providing an analysis of drought conditions based on recent satellite photography of Chile, this will not preclude further use being made of the photography. [ ] agreed with [ ] that specialists outside of the intelligence community who have [ ] clearances and are responsible for environmental studies should also be given an opportunity to see the photography.

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Executive Secretary  
Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachments

Tabs A, B, & C

Copies 5, 6 State TCO  
7 DIA TCO [ ]  
8, 9, 10, 11 DIA TCO  
12, 13 OACSI TCO  
14, 15 ONI TCO  
16, 17 AFNIN TCO  
18, 19 NSA TCO  
20, 21, 22 NRO TCO

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- Copies 1,2 DCI TCO for USIB/S  
3 TCO DCI Liaison Officer, SecDef  
4 [redacted] Executive Office Building  
23 [redacted]  
24 DDP TCO  
25-27 CIA COMIREX Member  
28,29 Ch/ICRS  
30 Special Center TCO  
31 ONE TCO  
32 IRS ReqBr/RecceGrp  
33 OBI TCO  
34-36 D/OSR  
37-46 NPIC TCO  
47 COMIREX Staff [redacted]  
48 Ch/EXRAND  
49 D/IAS  
50 TSO CIA  
51 DDS&T [redacted]  
52 ASA/DCI/NIPE  
53 D/OSI  
54 ExSec/SORS/OSI  
55 D/ILSS/DDS&T  
56 D/OSP  
57 D/OEL  
58 D/SA  
59 D/O/OSA  
60 Intel/O/OSA  
61 D/FMSAC  
62-66 Ch/COMIREX

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